GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3823
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2016
Death of Tigers
Mani Shri Jose K.

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as many as 74 tigers have died between 1 January and 26 June, 2016;
(b) if so, whether large scale poaching is responsible for these fatalities and if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether as per wildlife experts, intelligence-led enforcement operation is the key to thwart poaching; and
(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE)

(a) No Sir. The number of tigers died between 1 January and 26 June, 2016, inter alia including 15 seizures, is 67 and not 74.

(b) 77 cases of tiger mortality have been reported by the States till date, which, inter alia, includes 21 cases of confirmed poaching including seizure, 7 cases due to natural and other causes while 49 cases are under scrutiny.

(c) & (d) A number of antipoaching measures have been taken by the Government of India to thwart poaching which inter alia includes intelligence based enforcement operation also and the same are at Annexure-I.

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ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (c) & (d) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3823 ON DEATH OF TIGERS DUE FOR REPLY ON 09.08.2016

Number of antipoaching measures taken by the Government of India to thwart poaching which inter alia includes intelligence based enforcement operation

â€¢ Providing assistance to States under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger for protection infrastructure and antipoaching operations (including deployment of Tiger Protection Force and Special Tiger Protection Force)
â€¢ Providing grant through NTCA for patrolling in tiger rich sensitive forest areas outside tiger reserves
â€¢ Alerting the States as and when required
â€¢ Transmitting backward / forward linkages of information relating to poachers
â€¢ Advising the States for combing forest floor to check snares / traps
â€¢ Performing supervisory field visits through the National Tiger Conservation Authority and its regional offices
â€¢ Using information technology for improved surveillance (e-Eye system) using thermal cameras launched in Corbett, Ratapani and Kaziranga
â€¢ Launching tiger reserve level monitoring using camera trap to keep a photo ID database of individual tigers
â€¢ Preparing a national database of individual tiger photo captures to establish linkage with body parts seized or dead tigers
â€¢ Assisting States to refine protection oriented monitoring through monitoring system for tiger's intensive protection and ecological status (M-STrIPES)
â€¢ Assisting States to deploy local workforce in a big way for protection to complement the efforts of field staff [In all, approximately 25 lakh mandays are generated annually with 50% central assistance amounting to around Rs. 25 crores (excluding matching 50% share given by States) under Project Tiger. Many local tribes constitute such local workforce (besides non-tribals), eg. Baigas, Gonds in Madhya Pradesh, Gonds in Maharashtra, Chenchus in Andhra Pradesh, Sholigas in Karnataka, Gujjars in Uttarakhand and Irulas in Tamil Nadu to name a few.
â€¢ Initiative taken for collaboration of National Tiger Conservation Authority and Wildlife Crime Control Bureau towards an online tiger / wildlife crime tracking / reporting system in tiger reserves.

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